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HE STAYED IN THE OFFICE... SAID THERE WAS SOMETHING HE WANTED TO LOOK INTO.
KAJIYAMA!
GLANCE
THAT IDIOT!
DOOM
UH...
GREATER KANTO PUBLIC WELFARE MINISTRY NARCOTICS CONTROL DIVISION INVESTIGATION SECTION CHIEF, ONODERA
WE'VE GOT A BUST TODAY!
GREATER KANTO PUBLIC WELFARE MINISTRY NARCOTICS CONTROL DIVISION ROOKIE AGENT, KEIGO KAJIYAMA
WHAT THE HELL DOES HE THINK HE'S GONNA DO BEHIND A DAMN DESK?!
FUNT
ALL KINDS OF THINGS.

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BZT
GREAT, HE'S DONE IT AGAIN...
UM, CHIEF ONODERA? WHAT SHOULD WE DO?
IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO MAKE THE ARREST ON MY OWN.
SO HURRY OVER AS QUICKLY AS YOU CAN, OKAY?
WE'RE NOT FOLLOWING THE ORDERS OF SOME SNOT-NOSED KID!
WE'RE STARTING THE BUST HERE, AS PLANNED-
VROOM
HEY! WHERE'RE YOU GOING?
IT'S JUST...
CHIEF, PLEASE, CALM DOWN!
Think of the neighbors!
DON'T GIVE ME YOUR HALF-ASSED LIES!!
VROOOM
WITH ALL THIS TENSION, I GOTTA USE THE CAN...

FOR EXAMPLE, FROM MY DESK-
I FOUND OUT THE RIGHT LOCATION FOR THE BUST. HEADING THERE NOW.
GREATER KANTO PUBLIC WELFARE MINISTRY NARCOTICS CONTROL DIVISION ROOKIE AGENT, MASATAKA HIKI
THE ROOM THAT YOU'RE HEADING TO NOW, CHIEF...
IF YOU'D CHECK FOR YOURSELF, YOU'D SEE.
THE RIGHT LOCATION? THE HELL'RE YOU TALKING ABOUT?!
THERE'S NO SIGN HE'S LEFT THE-
HERE'S THE ADDRESS OF THE CORRECT LOCATION... MEGURO WARD...
WE CONFIRMED THE ENTRY OF THE DEALER JUST AN HOUR AGO!
THAT'S RIDICULOUS!
...IT'S COMPLETELY EMPTY.

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BASED ON THEIR TENDENCIES SO FAR, THERE WAS A HIGH PROBABILITY THAT THEY WOULD ALREADY BE RETURNING.
STARE
...
WHICH IS WHY I HEADED TO THE DEALER'S RESIDENCE TOO.
AFTER COLLECTING AND ANALYZING THE INFORMATION...
I LEARNED FROM THE BLUEPRINTS THAT THE APARTMENT HAD A SECRET PASSAGE IN IT.

FROM THE MIDDLE OF THE INVESTIGATION...
I SAID THE BUILDING HAD A SLIGHTLY STRANGE LAYOUT AND THAT WE SHOULD REQUEST THE BLUEPRINTS.
HUH?
BUT I DID!
WELL, SAY SO A LITTLE SOONER NEXT TIME!!

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IF THAT'S WHAT YOU'RE WORRIED ABOUT, WHY DID YOU START DEALING IN THE FIRST PLACE?
BECAUSE I HEARD IT WAS GOOD WORK! A FRIEND INTRODUCED ME...
I MIGHT BE SELLING... BUT I'VE NEVER USED THE STUFF MYSELF!
IF YOU CHECK, YOU'LL SEE! THIS JUST CAN'T...
IF THIS COMES OUT, I'LL BE EXPELLED!
LOOK, KID.
THIS JUST CAN'T WHAT?
DO YOU HAVE ANY CLUE HOW MANY PEOPLE ARE ADDICTS NOW BECAUSE OF YOU?
!
DON'T SCREW WITH ME, KID!
...
sniff I PROMISE I WON'T, SO...
I WON'T DO IT AGAIN...
I-I'M SORRY...
sniff

I MADE THE PROPOSAL SEVERAL TIMES...
...BUT ALL YOU SAID WAS, "THE ENTRANCE AND EXIT ARE IN THE SAME PLACE! I SAW IT, AND I KNOW!" IT WAS MOST UNFORTUNATE...
...THAT YOU WOULDN'T LISTEN.
WHAT ?!
HE'S ONE TO TALK...
WHA
WE MADE THE ARRESTS, SO EVERYTHING TURNED OUT ALL RIGHT.
NOW, NOW...
SHIVER
SHIVER
UH...
UH... WHAT...
...IS GOING TO HAPPEN TO ME?
Interrogation Room
I'M JUST A STUDENT...
...AND MY PARENTS ARE STILL SUPPORTING ME.

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I'LL TELL YOU ANY-THING...
SO PLEASE, DON'T SAY ANYTHING TO MY PARENTS OR THE SCHOOL!
ANY-THING, EH?
GRIN
...
HIKI, GET LOST.
...
Interrogation Room
KACK
HUH?
YOU GOTTA TRY TO GET ALONG BETTER WITH THE CHIEF.
PUT YOURSELF IN MY POSITION, ALWAYS HAVING TO SMOOTH THINGS OVER.
TEEN
IT'S NOT LIKE I DID IT JUST TO FIGHT WITH HIM...
You're so mean.
WHAT ABOUT THE EXAMI-NATION?
I GOT KICKED OUT.
THUNK
LOOK, HIKI...
...
God, he's always so intense.
TAK TAK
TAK
TAK TAK
TAK
AND IF WE'RE NOT GONNA USE HIM, WE NEED TO MAKE THE ARREST AS FAST AS WE CAN.
THESE ARE BAD TIMES— EVEN KIDS CAN GET DRUGS WITHOUT MUCH TROUBLE.
HAVING A STUDENT INFORMER COULD BE HUGE.
HELL, MAYBE IT'LL BE OKAY.
BUT... THE KID'S STILL A STUDENT, RIGHT?
AH, I SEE.
HE'S TRYING TO MAKE A NEW SNITCH.
SO HE'S GONNA TURN THAT DEALER INTO A NEW INFORMER THEN?
YUP.
RRR

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CAL-LING THE CHIEF'S LINE DIRECT-LY?
OH, IT'S YOU.
LONG TIME NO TALK. YOU DOING OKAY?
YES, THANKS TO YOU.
HELLO?
I'M GLAD I WAS OF ASSIS-TANCE.
YEAH, THANKS TO YOU WE GOT ALONG FINE.
SO... ABOUT WHAT WE TALKED ABOUT EARLIER...
"I'VE MADE SOME NEW FRIENDS."
...
SINCE THEN, "HOW'S SCHOOL GOING?"
SO...

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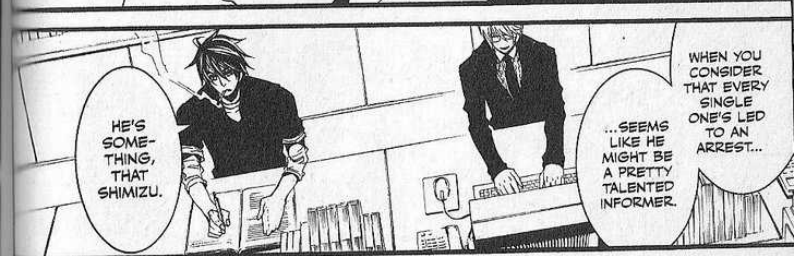
IF NICOTINE WERE REALLY THAT GOOD FOR YOU, I'D SMOKE TOO.
Oh, no!
BUT IN REALITY IT'S THE NUMBER ONE CAUSE OF LUNG CANCER.
SHUT UP!
"IT CALMS ME DOWN."
"I CAN WORK BETTER WHEN I SMOKE." ET CETERA.
YOU SMOKERS KNOW THE MEDICAL EFFECTS OF TOBACCO. YET YOU'RE DEAF TO THE FACT THAT IT'S A TERRIBLE HABIT.
YOU WANT TO SMOKE, SO YOU MAKE ALL KINDS OF EXCUSES.
HMPH


HE'S SOMETHING, THAT SHIMIZU.
...SEEMS LIKE HE MIGHT BE A PRETTY TALENTED INFORMER.
WHEN YOU CONSIDER THAT EVERY SINGLE ONE'S LED TO AN ARREST...

YOU'RE SO NAIVE.
FFFF
!
I WONDER IF HE'S TURNED A NEW LEAF.
...
WITHOUT ANY REAL COMPENSATION, HE'S RISKING A LOT TO FEED US DEALERS' NAMES.
IT'S LIKE HE JUST WANTS TO HELP OUT THE NARCS.

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I CAN SMOKE IF I WANT TO! IT'S MY LIFE, ANYWAY!
I'LL DIE RIGHT ALONG WITH MY BELOVED NICOTINE!
SPOKEN LIKE A TRUE SMOKER.
IT ALMOST SOUNDS LIKE YOU'RE REALLY DOING IT JUST BECAUSE YOU LIKE IT.
THAT'S 'CAUSE I AM!
Give it!
NO, YOU'RE NOT.
HOINK
THE TOBACCO IS MAKING YOU SMOKE. IT'S A DESPERATELY ADDICTIVE DRUG.
IT'S NOT A PREFERENCE. IT'S A COMPULSION.
TWITCH
WE COULD SAY YOU'RE BEING CONTROLLED BY IT.
EVEN IF YOU CAN CLAIM, "I CAN QUIT WHENEVER I WANT," ACTUALLY MAKING THAT CHOICE IS EXTREMELY DIFFICULT.
DO YOU STILL WANT IT BACK? YOUR MASTER?
OR SHALL I GO ON?
...

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SHINSUKE YAMASHITA, 23, A JUNIOR AT TEITO ART COLLEGE.
APPARENTLY HE GROWS MARIJUANA IN HIS HOME AND HAS PARTIES EVERY SO OFTEN.
I WANT YOU TWO TO STICK TO HIM...
...AND CORROBORATE THE REPORT.
ANOTHER TIP FROM OUR STUDENT EMPLOYEE?
YEAH. YOU GOT A PROBLEM WITH THAT?
CHIEF ONODERA...
heh heh
OR DO YOU JUST HATE DOING STAKEOUTS?
PLEASE DON'T ASK SILLY QUESTIONS THERE'S NO REASON TO ANSWER.
ZING
!!
IT'S A WASTE OF TIME.
WE'LL BE OFF.
!!

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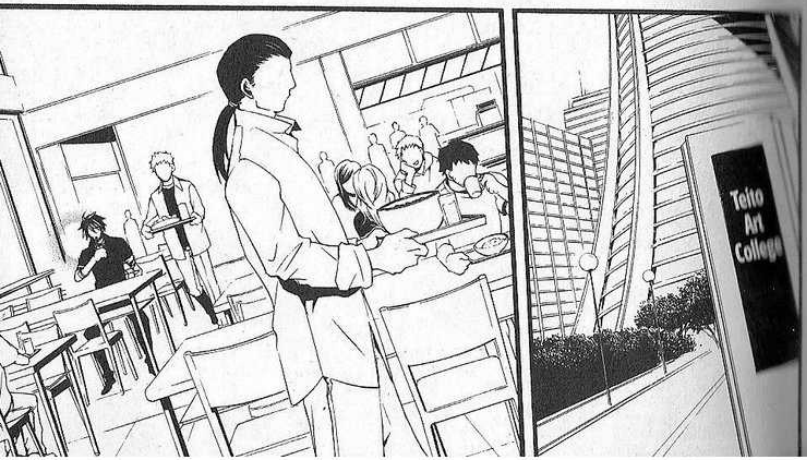

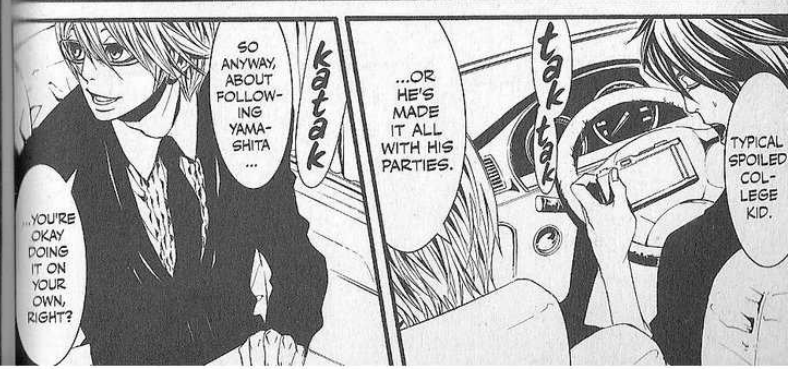
katak
SO ANYWAY, ABOUT FOLLOWING YAMASHITA ...
...YOU'RE OKAY DOING IT ON YOUR OWN, RIGHT?
tak tak
...OR HE'S MADE IT ALL WITH HIS PARTIES.
TYPICAL SPOILED COLLEGE KID.

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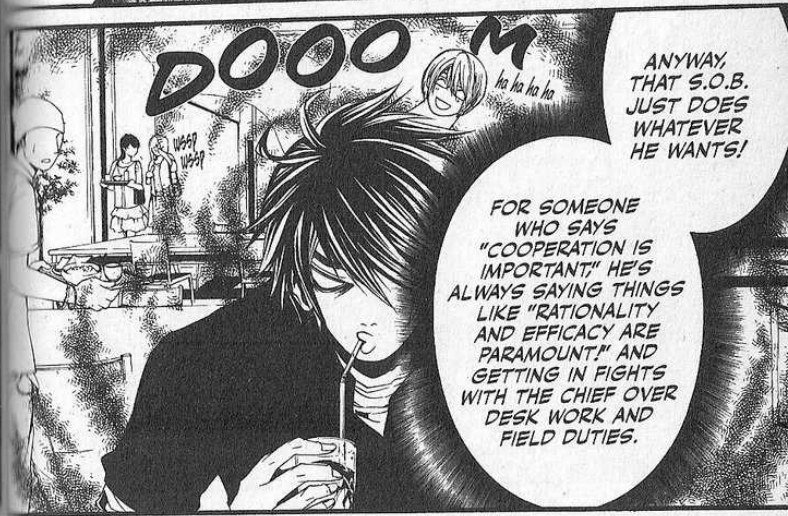
DOOO M
ha ha ha ha
WEEP WEEP
ANYWAY, THAT S.O.B. JUST DOES WHATEVER HE WANTS!
FOR SOMEONE WHO SAYS "COOPERATION IS IMPORTANT," HE'S ALWAYS SAYING THINGS LIKE "RATIONALITY AND EFFICACY ARE PARAMOUNT!" AND GETTING IN FIGHTS WITH THE CHIEF OVER DESK WORK AND FIELD DUTIES.

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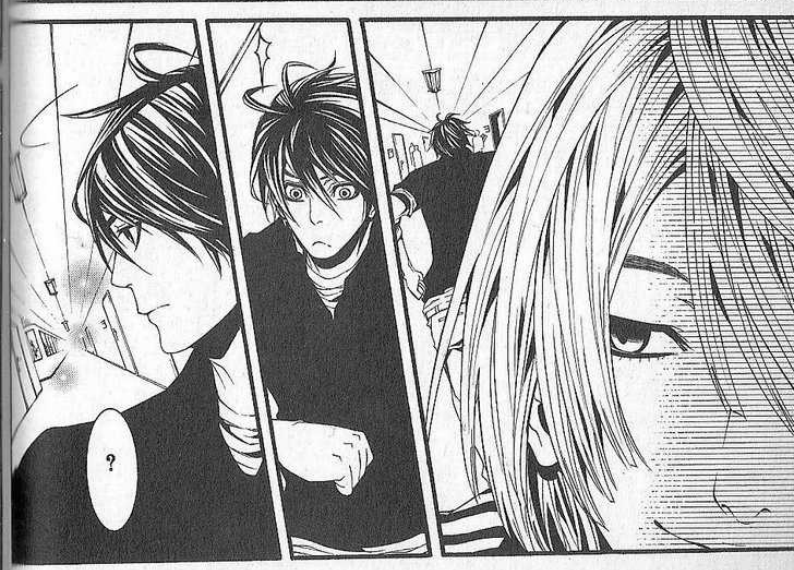

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DADUM
WHA!
I'M BA-ACK! Hee hee♥
SHUT UP, I KNOW THA-
DON'T TAKE YOUR EYES OFF HIM.
...
"I'M BACK," MY ASS! WHERE'D YOU TAKE OFF TO AND LEAVE ME TO DO THE TAILING ON MY OWN?!
TING
JUST AROUND.
AS IF I'M GONNA LET YOU OFF WITH THAT LIE!!
SIGH.
CAN YOU WAIT UNTIL THINGS ARE A LITTLE CLEARER?
MMM... I DON'T LIKE SAYING ANYTHING WHEN IT'S STILL JUST CONJECTURE.
YOU CAN'T EVEN TELL ME?
HEY, NOW...
S..igh
JUST STAY IN YOUR HOUSE TODAY, OKAY, PAL?

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SHIMIZU, THE INFORMER WAS THERE.
SHIMIZU...
HE DOESN'T GO TO THE SAME COLLEGE AS YAMASHITA, RIGHT?
SHIFT SHIFT
I DON'T THINK SO... HEY, WAIT-
HM?
HEY, AREN'T THOSE INTERNAL DOCUMENTS? YOU CAN'T TAKE THOSE OUT OF THE OFFICE!
It's written right on them!
huh?
OH, I'LL TAKE THEM RIGHT BACK!
Don't tell, 'kay?
Do Not Remove
Remove
WHAT WAS SHIMIZU DOING THERE?
SSSS
YEAH, ABOUT THAT...
WHAT IS HE UP TO, ANYWAY?
suggoi
AND?
FINE, WHATEVER.
pfff
IT'S BECAUSE YOU'RE THE ONLY OTHER ROOKIE! DON'T READ ANYTHING INTO IT!
ARE YOU WORRIED ABOUT ME?
I'm flattered!
JUST DON'T DO ANYTHING CRAZY, OKAY?
Siiigh
THERE WASN'T ANYTHING ELSE OUT OF THE ORDINARY?
SO WHAT ABOUT YAMASHITA?
VERY DAMN NORMAL!
pfff
NORMAL. EXTREMELY NORMAL.
HE STAYS OUT OF TROUBLE. SAME FOR HIS FRIENDS. THE END.
HE'S NOT LAZY LIKE A STANDARD JUNKIE. GETS UP EARLY, GETS TO SCHOOL ON TIME, HAS CLASS ALL DAY.
HE GETS LUNCH, HANGS OUT, AND GOES HOME WITH HIS GIRL.
I SEE.

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YOU TOOK YOUR EYES OFF HIM?
HE...
...GAVE ME THIS...
Yamashita went to the classroom
BUT IT'S WEIRD.
GOING OUT OF THE WAY TO MAKE CONTACT WITH THE GUY HE'S SUPPOSED TO BE INFORMING ON.
YEAH, I THOUGHT SO TOO.
BAILED OUT BY THE INFORMER?
glint
YOU ARE A FAILURE AS AN AGENT.
Death is too good for you.
shrunk
It's just
BUT IT'S HARD TO IMAGINE HE JUST BUMPED INTO YAMASHITA BY CHANCE.
WHICH MEANS...

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WE'LL JUST FIND IT THEN.
haah
WHAD'YA MEAN, "IS THAT ALL"?!
hmph
IT WILL GET FOUND!
HUH?!
shf
OR RATHER...
IS THIS THE TIME TO BE TAKING IT EASY?
GRAB
UH, THE DEADLINE'S TOMORROW, YOU KNOW!
SO?
WHAT DO YOU PLAN TO DO?
YUP.
GRAB
...
BUT WOULDN'T YOU LIKE TO TRY SOMETHING MORE FUN?
MORE FUN?
I JUST GOT A CALL FROM THE CHIEF...
SNGG SNGG
WHAT'S UP?
I KNOW, IT'S CRAZY. WE JUST STARTED THE CASE TODAY!
GETTING PROOF IN ONE DAY IS JUST—
IS THAT ALL?
HE TOLD US TO GET ENOUGH EVIDENCE FOR A SEARCH WARRANT BY TOMORROW NIGHT SO WE CAN MAKE THE BUST.
!
SHIMIZU JUST REPORTED THAT YAMASHITA'S GONNA HAVE A PARTY AT HIS PLACE TOMORROW.

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'SCUSE ME.
DON'T YOU GUYS WANT TO FOLLOW HIM?
HEY, YOU'RE-!
A LITTLE TOO COOPERATIVE.
WELL, AREN'T YOU BEING COOPERATIVE?
...
THE DEAL'S GOING DOWN IN A SUBWAY BATHROOM.
HE'S STOCKING UP ON WEED TONIGHT FOR TOMORROW'S PARTY.
HIS IS OW I WORK.
ARE YOU MAKING FUN OF ME?
!
LET'S BE A LITTLE MORE RATIONAL, SHALL WE?
ARE YOU GONNA GO OVER TO YAMASHITA'S HOUSE AND PAW THROUGH HIS TRASH?
!
IF YOU DON'T LIKE IT, DO SOMETHING ELSE.
...
LOOK, YAMASHITA'S LEAVING. DON'T YOU WANT TO FOLLOW HIM?
...

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HE'S A GOOD KID. DOES WHAT HE'S TOLD.
...
DASH
!
YOU OUGHTA LISTEN TO WHAT PEOPLE SAY TOO.
...YOU CAN'T WAIT TO SEE YOUR FRIEND ARRESTED.
ALMOST LIKE...
YOU'RE THE ONES THAT WANT TO MAKE THE ARREST.
MAYBE YOU SHOULD TREAT YOUR INFORMANT WITH A LITTLE MORE RESPECT.
...
grin
I REMEMBER YOU.
YOU'RE THE RICH-KID AGENT THAT WAS THERE WHEN I WAS QUESTIONED.
I HEARD FROM THE CHIEF.
YOU'RE SOME KINDA GENIUS AT DESK WORK.
HEY!
LOOK...
urgh
YOU GUYS ARE SUCH IDIOTS THAT WITHOUT A WORD FROM ME, YOU WOULDN'T MAKE A SINGLE ARREST.
AND THERE'LL BE NO DROP IN DRUG CRIME.
SO YOU BETTER HURRY! IF YOU DON'T GET EVIDENCE, YOU WON'T GET THAT SEARCH WARRANT!

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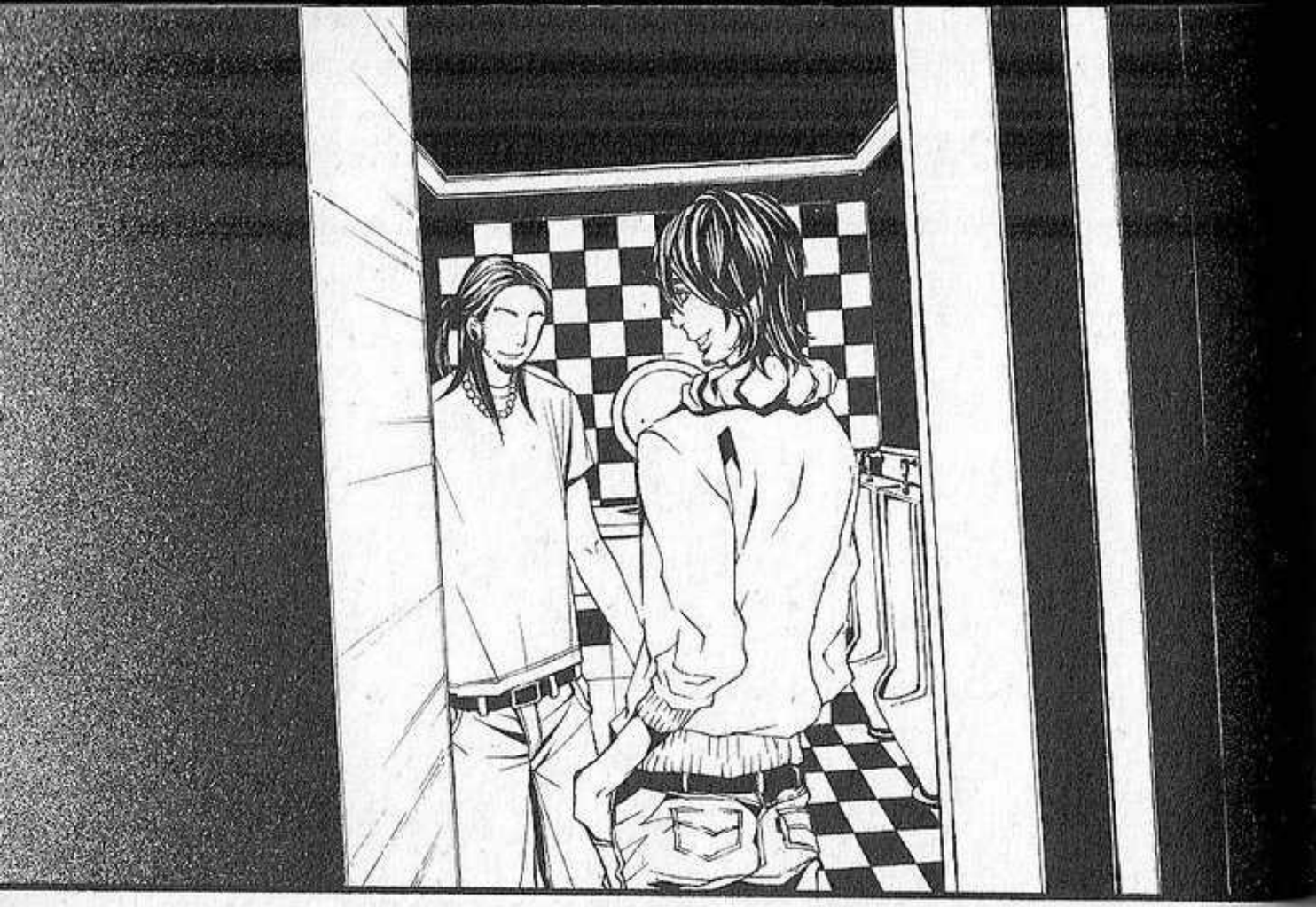

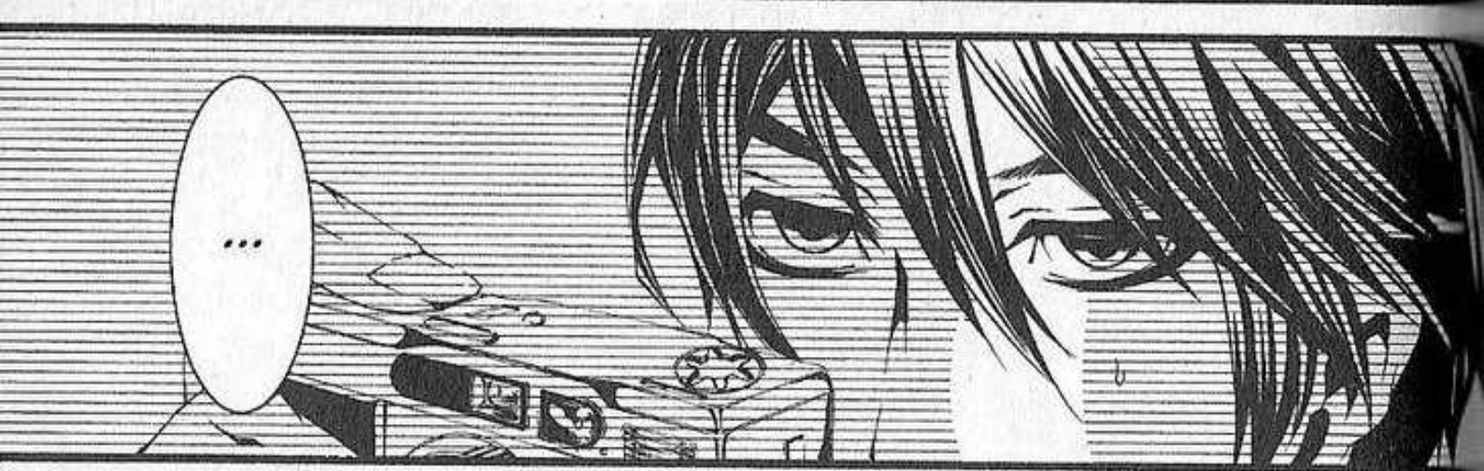

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...YOU CAN'T WAIT TO SEE YOUR FRIEND ARRESTED.
YEAH, IT'S ALMOST LIKE...
STILL, IT'S BEEN A LITTLE TOO EASY...
SHIMIZU SHOWS UP...
WE'RE BEING LED INTO MAKING THE ARREST...
AH!
THERE HE GOES AGAIN, JUST-!
DID YOU GET THE WEED OKAY?

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!!!
It's morning?!
DISTRICT COURT.
YOU WERE TRYING TO GET A RESIDENTIAL SEARCH WARRANT, RIGHT?
rub rub
DISTRICT COURT...? W-WHEN DID YOU...?
EARLIER.
ANYWAY, JUST GO, GO!
SHAKES OUT?
WHAT'RE YOU TALKING ABOUT?!
WELL...
IT'S JUST A HUNCH...
SMAK
THE HELL'RE YOU GOING?!
I'LL HEAD BACK TO THE OFFICE WHEN THIS ALL SHAKES OUT.
chuck
HEY, WAIT A SEC!
SEE YA.
...
...THEN THEY WANT THIS TO END TONIGHT, WITH ONLY YAMASHITA'S ARREST.
IF SOMEONE IS USING THE NCD
OKAY THEN.
SEE YOU LATER.
UH... SURE.
THEY'RE SO TOUCHY ABOUT THEM
ARE YOU SERIOUSLY IMPLICATING BOTH THE CHIEF AND SHIMIZU?
NOT NECESSARILY THE CHIEF. HE'D BE JUST ONE POSSIBILITY, ANYWAY.
BUT IT WOULD EXPLAIN SHIMIZU'S EXCESSIVE COOPERATION.
!
...THAT SOMEONE'S WORKING WITH SHIMIZU TO FABRICATE THIS INCIDENT?

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ZING
HE'S ON A CASE.
THERE'S A MORE IMPORTANT CASE THAN THE YAMASHITA ONE, IS THERE?!
"AN EXTREMELY IMPORTANT CASE"?!
RIGHT NOW HE'S ON AN EXTREMELY IMPORTANT CASE.
swish
oh-
flip
DO NOT REMOVE
VROOOM
...
!
shf
...
TELL ME THE TRUTH.
THAT SPOILED LITTLE BRAT...
...GOT HIS PRIDE INJURED AND DITCHED US, EH?
HE'S NOT ANSWERING HIS PHONE.
...
Grr
WE'RE ABOUT TO DO A BUST!
WHERE'S THAT CHOWDER-HEAD WANDERED OFF TO AT A TIME LIKE THIS?!
ISN'T HE HERE YET?!
!
hmph
GETTING BAILED OUT BY THE INFORMER AT THE SCENE- THAT'S...
?
IF IT WEREN'T FOR SHIMIZU'S ADVICE, HE WOULD'VE TOTALLY MISSED THE LOCATION FOR THE YAMASHITA DEAL.
DON'T PLAY DUMB.

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shff
IT WAS HARD TO FIND ALL SIX OF THE PRIOR ARRESTEES.
THE SIX WHAT?
WHAT'S THIS?
MY APOLOGIES.
YOU'RE SURE TAKING A LOT OF LIBERTIES EH?
HE WOULDN'T DITCH BECAUSE OF SOMETHING LIKE THAT!
!
IF YOU THINK HE CARRIES THAT KIND OF PRIDE AROUND ON A CASE...
GRAB
MAYBE THERE'S SOMETHING WRONG WITH YOU!
WHAT'D YOU SAY?!
THE SIX PEOPLE ARRESTED ON SHIMIZU'S INFORMATION.
!
AH, CERTAINLY YOU SHOULD ARREST HIM.
YAMASHITA NOW POSSESSES MARIJUANA, AFTER ALL.
HEY, NOW, KIDDO, TONIGHT WE'RE BUSTING YAMASHITA.
YOU OKAY IN THE HEAD?
MRMR
SHIMIZU?
YOU!
SORRY I'M LATE.
shf
KAJI-KUN.

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YES, AND THEY WERE ALL SMALL FRY.
WE'VE MADE SIX ARRESTS THANKS TO-
HE'S FACED DANGER TO FEED US INFORMATION IN GOOD FAITH!
FIRST I'VE HEARD OF IT. WHAT'S YOUR SOURCE?
?!
FOUR OF THE DEALERS ARRESTED ON SHIMIZU'S INFORMATION...
...ALL RECEIVED THEIR GOODS FROM A BOSS IN THE SAME ORGANIZATION.
SMALL FRY?
I TOOK THE LIBERTY OF RECHECKING ALL SIX OF THEM MYSELF.
THAT IS ONE POSSIBILITY...
WHEN ARRESTS GO UP, THE RISK GOES UP TOO.
SO IT PULLS THE PRICE OF DRUGS UP WITH IT, OF COURSE!
YEAH, SO?
BUT THE PRICE OF DRUGS HAS GONE UP THERE, AND THEY'VE BECOME MORE DIFFICULT TO OBTAIN.
THEY ALL DID BUSINESS IN A PARTICULAR REGION.
CHIEF, A PROPOSAL-
PLEASE PUT OUR INFORMER SHIMIZU UNDER IMMEDIATE CLOSE OBSERVATION.
ARRESTING A LIGHT USER LIKE YAMASHITA...
...WON'T SOLVE ANYTHING.
?!
Chief, calm down!
ARE YOU SCREWIN' WITH ME, BOY?!
GRAB
CERTAINLY NOT.
ALL I WANT TO SAY IS...
Hmph
HE IS CLEARLY ACTING BEYOND HIS CAPACITY AS AN INFORMER.
YEAH, WHY NOW?
GIVEN THAT HE DIRECTLY APPROACHED BOTH AGENTS AND THE TARGET TODAY...
FOR WHAT PURPOSE?
IT'S BECAUSE YOU TWO ARE SO WORTHLESS!
IT'S AS IF...
...HE'S TRYING TO AFFECT THE OUTCOME OF THE CASE.

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...ANOTHER GROUP IS TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THE MONOPOLY TO TRAFFIC.
A RUMOR?!
BUT THERE IS A RUMOR THAT SINCE THE GROUP THAT THOSE FOUR DEALERS BELONGED TO PULLED OUT OF THE REGION...
SO IT'S A COINCIDENCE THAT FOUR OF THE DEALERS SHIMIZU SNITCHED ON WERE ALL WORKING FOR ONE GROUP?
THERE IS AT LEAST THE POSSIBILITY THAT IF SHIMIZU'S WORKING FOR THE RIVAL GROUP...
hmph
GIMME A BREAK! A RUMOR?!
A HA HA HA! C'MON, HIKI!
WHICH ARE WE GONNA TRUST, YOUR VAGUE-ASS RUMOR?
OR AN INFORMER WHO'S HELPED US ARREST SIX PEOPLE?
UM... CHIEF ONO-DERA...
I'M NOT DONE TALKING.
YES, YOU ARE!
HE'S USING US TO ELIMINATE THEIR RIVALS!
ENOUGH!

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YOU'RE OVER-ESTIMATING ME...
DAMMIT! YOU'RE ALWAYS DOING EVERYTHING ON YOUR OWN!
I SHOULD'VE REALIZED AND HELPED YOU OUT SOONER.
YOU'RE PROBABLY MORE TIRED THAN EVER.
THAT AIN'T THE HIKI I KNOW!
YOU'RE GOING TO SAY ALL THAT STUFF AND THEN JUST GIVE UP?
HIKI...
I'M SORRY.
YOU'RE ALWAYS COVERING FOR ME...
...AND NOW I'M MAKING YOU LOOK BAD.
I'M REALLY SORRY.
KAJI
THE DARK CIRCLES UNDER YOUR EYES.
WAS IT THE DATA SEARCHING THAT YOU SKIPPED SLEEP FOR? OR STAKING OUT SHIMIZU?
!
I KNOW.
WHERE'D YOU FIND THE TIME TO DIG UP AND ARRANGE THAT MUCH INFORMA-TION?
THOSE RESTRICTED DOCUMENTS...
KAJI?
YANK
TELL ME.
YANK
WHAT SHOULD I DO?
GRAB
LET'S GO.
!

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HERE'S TO THE RYUGEN RETURNING TO JAPAN.
NEITHER OF THEM KNOWS ENOUGH ABOUT US TO PROVE ANYTHING.
ON THE CONTRARY...
LEAVE THEM.
THEY WERE VERY USEFUL FOR TRASH.
WE ELIMINATED A RIVAL GROUP AND RAISED THE PRICE OF OUR PRODUCT.
BUT...
THAT'S A SOLID RESULT.
IT'S STILL JUST A PROTOTYPE.
THEY CAN HAVE AS MUCH AS THEY WANT.
...THEY CONFISCATED A BIG SHIPMENT OF THE STUFF.
shf
YOU'RE UNDER ARREST FOR POSSESSION OF ILLEGAL STIMULANTS.
YOU CAN TELL US ALL ABOUT IT.
STARTING WITH HOW YOU SLUNK INTO THE NCD BY PRETENDING TO BE AN INFORMER.
KA CHIK
WHAT IS IT?
OUR MULE AND OUR LOCAL BOSS HAVE BEEN TAKEN BY THE NCD.
RRR

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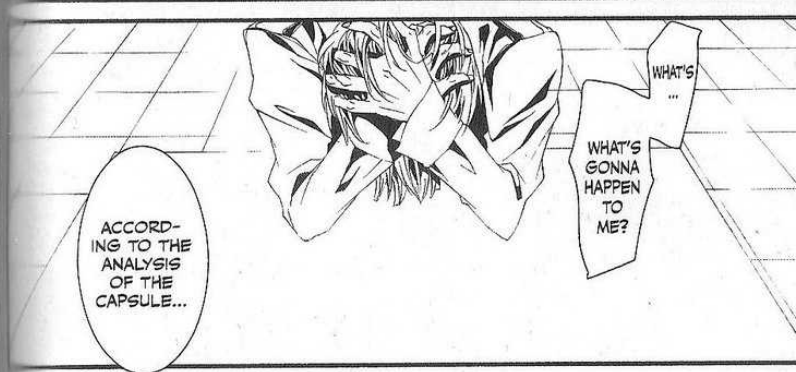
THEY SAID IF I DID AS I WAS TOLD, IT WOULDN'T BE DANGEROUS...
THEY TOLD ME TO BECOME AN INFORMER...
I WAS JUST MAKING DELIVERIES. IT PAID BETTER THAN ANYTHING ELSE.
SHUDDER
SHUDDER
Interro
IT'S THE TRUTH.
I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING...

THEY SAID WE'D GET RID OF THE RIVALS AND BE ABLE TO MAKE BIGGER SHIPMENTS.
EVERY SO OFTEN I'D GET INFORMATION ABOUT A RIVAL GROUP AND LEAK IT TO YOU GUYS.



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HEY, KAJI... CAN I ASK YOU SOME-THING?
YEAH?
MMM
WHY DID YOU TRUST ME?
...
I DIDN'T EXPLAIN ANYTHING TO YOU, JUST WENT AND DID MY OWN THING...
WHA
I'M SORRY!
I'M NOT LIKE YOU- I DON'T HAVE THE POWER TO SEE TRUTH AND LIES, READ BETWEEN THE LINES, MAKE THE DIFFICULT CON-CLUSIONS.
SURE I DO. BUT...
YOU DON'T KNOW THAT...
YOU'RE THE SMART-EST.
WHAT?
IT'S SIM PLE
HUH?
HMM!
I'm beat. GOIN' HOME FOR THE FIRST TIME IN TWO DAYS!
IN-DEED.

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SO I'LL DO WHATEVER I CAN TO HELP YOU.
I TRUST YOUR DILIGENCE AND MIND MORE THAN ANYONE ELSE'S.
YOU CAN DO THAT STUFF IN MY PLACE.
KAJI...
BUT DON'T EVEN THINK ABOUT GOING OFF ON YOUR OWN AGAIN.
I REALLY HATE THAT ABOUT YOU.
SWOON
I love it!
YOUR SIMPLICITY COMMANDS THE UTMOST RESPECT!
I think I might never be able to leave you!
BUT I'M COUNTING ON YOU, PARTNER.

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Act.54

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I HOPE IT WAS NOTHING...
I SORTA FELT LIKE SOMETHING BAD WAS ABOUT TO HAPPEN IN THAT DREAM.
TODAY I'LL TALK ABOUT MY UNLUCKY DAY.
100% WHOLE MILK
牛乳
wah
TARGET! 170 CENTI-METERS!
THAT'S NOT YOUR CONCERN!
YOU'VE FINISHED GROW-ING.
THERE'S NO WAY YOU'RE GONNA ADD 20 CENTI-METERS TO YOUR HEIGHT.
GULP
GULP
GULP
GULP
JUST GIVE UP ALREADY.
r-i-n-g
SHUDDUP!
JUST GET HIM TO ACCEPT YOU THE WAY YOU ARE.
HOW TALL IS THE GUY YOU LIKE? 169 CENTI-METERS!

DON'T CRY, BABY GIRL.
BRRING
BEEP
...
GOOD MORNING, EVERYBODY. I'M MIKA TACHIBANA FROM THE INTELLIGENCE SECTION.
UGH... I HAVEN'T HAD AN EMBARRASSING DREAM LIKE THAT IN A WHILE...

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BUT THEN YOU'LL BE ON YOUR OWN...
I'LL BE FINE.
IT WAS SORT OF COMPULSORY, BUT AT LEAST HE CAN GET SOME SLEEP THIS WAY.
WHY DON'T YOU CATCH A NAP TOO, MIYOSHI?
YOU TAKE A NICE LONG NAP.
RESTING UP IS PART OF THE JOB TOO!
MIKA !!!
BWUH
kachik
I tell him all the time!
Waaah
Tell that to Ibu! I beg you!
OH, GOOD MORNING, CHIEF KATSURAGI!
MORNIN'.

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I HAVE SOMETHING TO DO OVER THERE, SO IT'S ON THE WAY.
NO, I MEAN...
DUUM
NO, I'M FINE!
OH, DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT. I'LL TAKE THEM LATER.
Oof. I'LL JUST TAKE THESE OVER TO SECTION 2.
OH...
I DON'T THINK THEY'LL BE BACK YET.
OKAY, THANKS!
A BUST...
YES, A BUST, AS I RECALL.
THEY HAVE A CASE?
TUP
WELL, I'LL TAKE THESE TO SECTION 1 ANYWAY.

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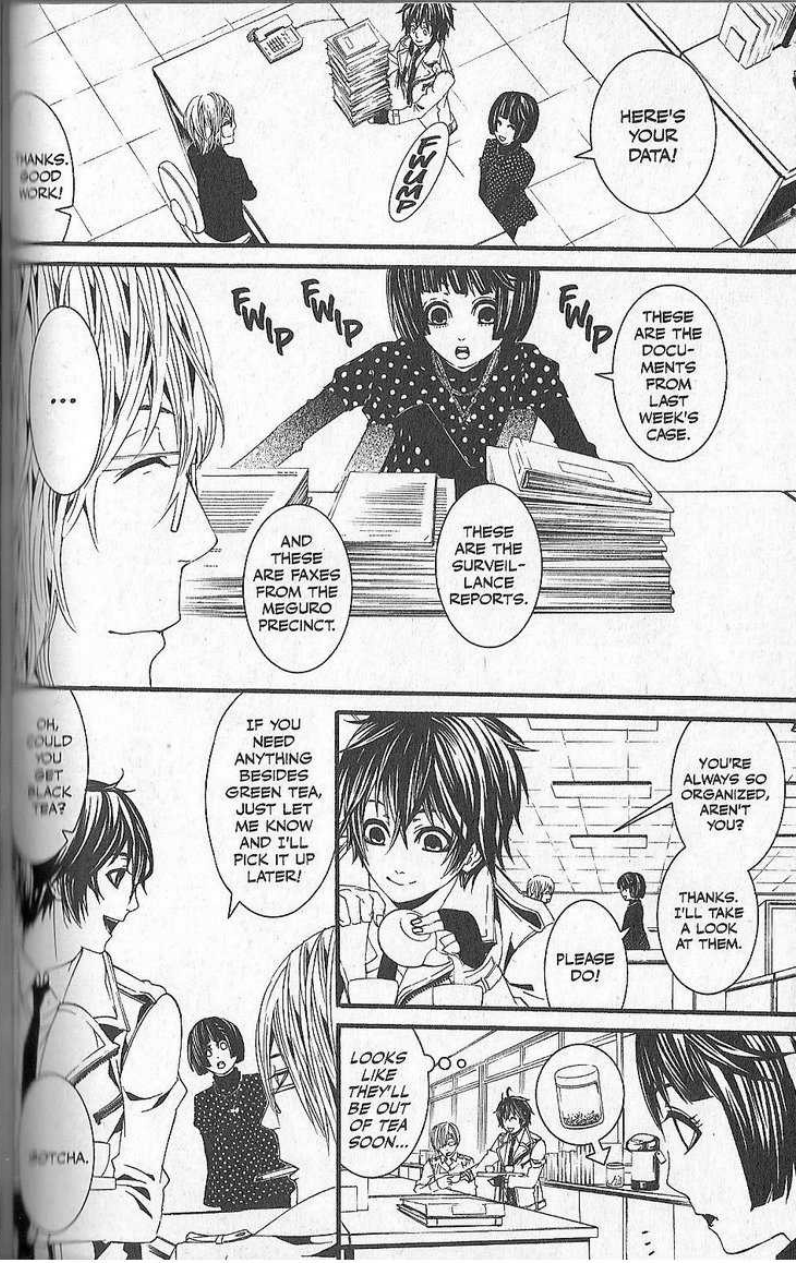
THANKS. GOOD WORK!
FWUMP
HERE'S YOUR DATA!
...
FWIP
FWIP
FWIP
THESE ARE THE DOCUMENTS FROM LAST WEEK'S CASE.
AND THESE ARE FAXES FROM THE MEGURO PRECINCT.
THESE ARE THE SURVEILLANCE REPORTS.
OH, COULD YOU GET BLACK TEA?
IF YOU NEED ANYTHING BESIDES GREEN TEA, JUST LET ME KNOW AND I'LL PICK IT UP LATER!
YOU'RE ALWAYS SO ORGANIZED, AREN'T YOU?
THANKS. I'LL TAKE A LOOK AT THEM.
PLEASE DO!
LOOKS LIKE THEY'LL BE OUT OF TEA SOON...
GOTCHA.

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MIKA-CHAN?
HEY!
LUCKY HER.
...
RAWR
AW-RIGHT! OKAY! I'LL FIND A REASON TO GO SEE HIM!
GOOD LUCK!
THAT'S NO GOOD!
ACTUALLY I'VE BEEN WORKING A LOT LATELY...
AND YOUR SKIN LOOKS A BIT DRY TOO!
ARE YOU SLEEPING ENOUGH? LOOK! DARK CIRCLES!
RAAAAAR
HEY, TACHIBANA.
GLINT
AW-RIGHT!
I'LL GET YOU SOME VITAMIN C CANDY AND A FACIAL MASK WITH COLLAGEN IN IT LATER!!
A MAIDEN IN LOVE SHOULD BE SMOOTH, BRIGHT AND STRESS-FREE!
It's all about a healthy lifestyle!

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I'M GOING SHOP-PING!
?
HUFF
HUFF
I KNEW IT!
I HAD A BAD FEELING ABOUT THIS!
HUFF
HUFF
DOOOM
HE HAS WEIRD LONG HAIR WITH A FEW DREAD-LOCKS IN IT, AND HE'S REALLY TALL...
...AND HE'S GOT THESE EYES THAT SEEM KIND OF LIKE A RABID DOG, IF THAT HELPS!
MR. ASAKURA, LET'S SEE...
UH, I'M LOOK-ING FOR AN EMER-GENCY PATIENT— KOJI ASA-KURA.
UM, WELL...

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UM, WEREN'T YOU INJURED?
KINDA.
THREE CENTI-METERS ?!
WASN'T THAT BIG OF A DEAL, BUT THEN THEY'RE ALL, "YOU'RE BLEEDING, GO TO THE HOSPITAL."
SOME JACKASS JUST MANAGED TO GET A KNIFE ABOUT THREE CENTI-METERS INTO ME.
CHIEF, PLEASE!
WHAT ABOUT THIS?
LET'S SEE, WOULD THIS CANDY AND COLLAGEN MASK BE FOR KUZUI OVER IN ANALYSIS, MAYBE?
shff
shff
EYE-DROPS AND COLD PACKS FOR IBU.
LIVER FOR NORIKA...
BLACK TEA FOR SEC-TION 1...
I CAN'T LET SOME-ONE WHO'S BEEN STABBED CARRY GRO-CERIES!
sway
THAT'S...

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IS THIS REALLY IN THE GANGBUSTERS JURISDICTION ...?
KLIK
KLIK
OH YEAH. NO QUESTION.
THIS IS ONE OF THE DEALERS WE HAD UNDER SURVEIL-LANCE.

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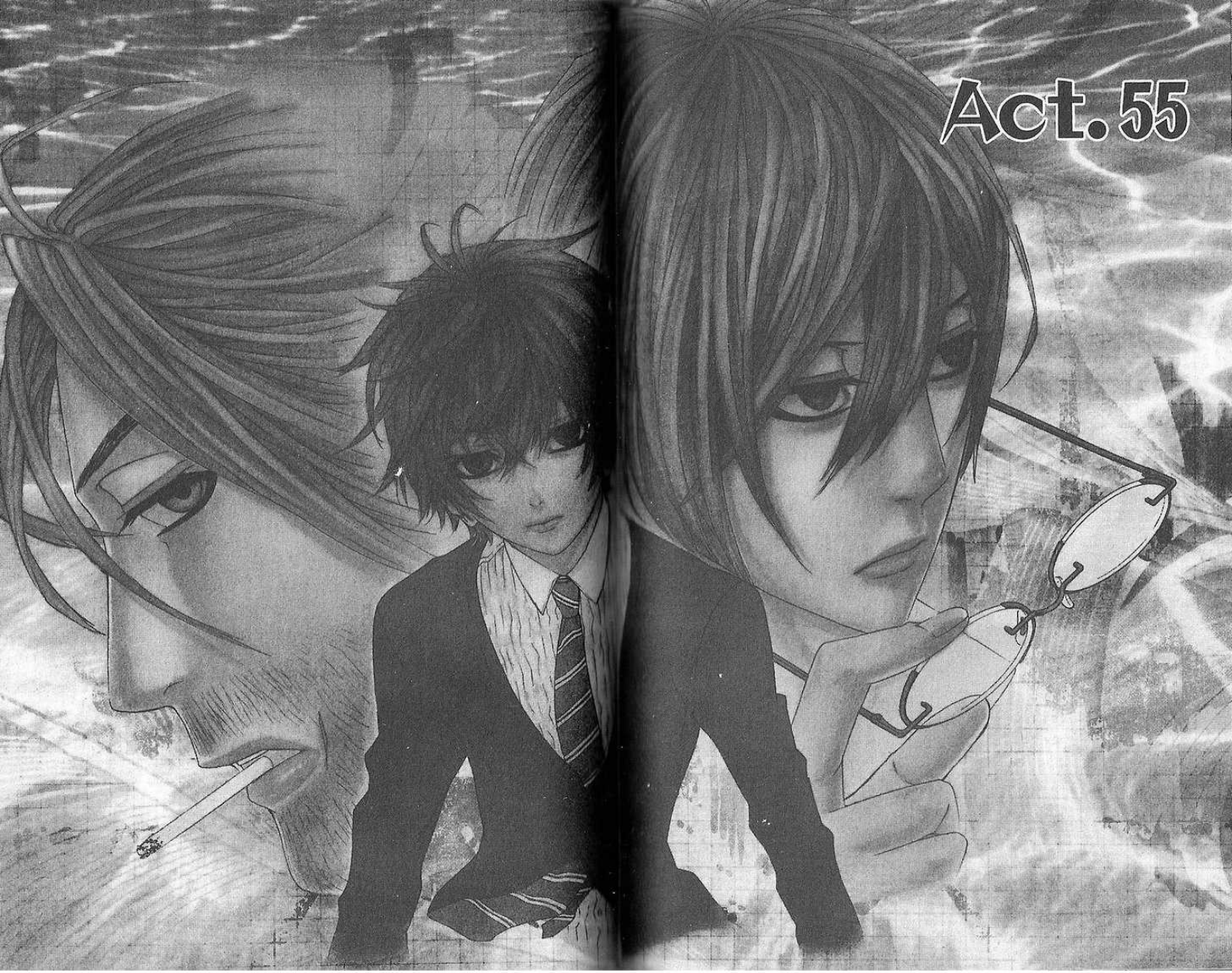

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A "SEED."
Special Anti-Organized Crime Unit 5
THIS JUMP FATALITY WAS THE SECOND SEED-RELATED DEATH.
THE "SEED" DEALER WAS THE FIRST.
A TRAFFIC ACCIDENT, I BELIEVE.
AND THE AUTOPSY RESULTS?
LOOKS LIKE EVIDENCE OF SIGNIFICANT QUANTITIES OF DRUGS IN HIS BODY.
SO HE OVERDOSES...
THEN OUT OF HIS MIND, JUMPS OFF THE BUILDING?
THAT'S A POSSIBILITY.
GREAT. THERE GOES OUR BIGGEST LEAD...
GIVE ME A STATUS REPORT ON THE INVESTIGATIONS INTO THE DEALERS THAT ARE STILL ALIVE.
YES, SIR.
WE ARE CURRENTLY WATCHING THREE REMAINING INDIVIDUALS...
...THAT ARE INVOLVED WITH THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE HALLUCINOGEN "SEED."
HOWEVER...
WE'VE GOTTEN ALMOST NO INFORMATION SINCE COMMENCING OBSERVATION TWO MONTHS AGO.
AND SINCE THEN, TWO OF THE DEALERS HAVE DIED. IT CAN'T BE A COINCIDENCE.
THERE HAS BEEN LITTLE ACTIVITY, AND WE'RE HAVING DIFFICULTY FINDING A WAY TO APPROACH THEM.
WHAT IF THEY ALL DIE?
WOOOOOO
I'M SORRY.
BUT WE KNOW IT'S A VERY POWERFUL HALLUCINOGEN.
YEAH, IT MAKES YOU THINK YOU CAN FLY.

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AND THE PILLS ARE TOO SMALL!
THEY'RE BARELY TWO MILLIMETERS ACROSS, SO IF YOU'RE NOT CAREFUL, YOU'LL NEVER SPOT THEM.
AND YET THEY'RE TEN TIMES STRONGER THAN NORMAL HALLUCINOGENS.
WHO MADE THIS STUFF? IT'S A MONSTER...
SKRLCH SKRLCH
AKI-SAN.
GUESS WE HAVE TO REORGANIZE THE CASE.
HM?
YOU GOT A PACKAGE. THE GENERAL AFFAIRS SECTION BROUGHT IT UP.
A PACKAGE?
"IGAKI"? DON'T KNOW ANYBODY WITH THAT NAME.
BESIDES, WOULDN'T A FRIEND SEND SOMETHING TO MY HOME ADDRESS?
WHICH MEANS...

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AKI?
SO, IGAKI IN SUGINAMI WARD, WAS IT?
HE'S GOT A LOT OF GUTS, CALLING ME OUT WITH A RANDOM PACKAGE AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS.
UH, NEVER MIND.
I GOT A BAD FEELING ABOUT THIS...
AND THIS IS SOME KINDA TIMING.
UNDERSTOOD!
GUESS WE OUGHTA CHECK IT OUT, EH?
UH-OH...

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AKI?
...
I'LL BE BACK IN A SEC.
WELL, THIS IS UNEXPECTED.
Whf
I'D LIKE TO SAY WHAT A SURPRISE IT IS...
BUT I DOUBT YOU GUYS ARE JUST OUT ON A PLEASURE DRIVE.

I'M SORRY!
I GUESS HE WENT OUT JUST WHEN WE TOOK OUR EYES OFF HIM FOR A SECOND, AND...
GUESS WE SHOULDN'T HAVE JOKED ABOUT IT.
THERE'S NO WAY.
...
SEEMS HE JUMPED RIGHT INTO THE RIVER IN HIS CLOTHES, IN THIS FREEZING WEATHER.
THAT WAS PROBABLY THE DIRECT CAUSE OF DEATH.
SO THIS MEANS THERE ARE TWO DEALERS LEFT.
DROWNING...
A DRUG THAT BECKONS DEATH... SEEMS LIKE I HEARD SOMETHING ABOUT THAT SOMEWHERE...
WE'VE GOT TO FIND WHAT THE SOURCE WAS FOR THESE GUYS...
...BEFORE THEY DIED.

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TWO MONTHS AGO, OUR INFORMER TOLD US..
...ABOUT A NEW DRUG THAT WAS RIPPING THROUGH THEIR TURF.
KLIK
WE'D JUST PUT EACH OF THE FIVE DEALERS UNDER SURVEIL-LANCE.
HEY, KIDS.
HAVEN'T SEEN YOU IN A WHILE, NARITA!
YUP.
SO...
HOW ABOUT YOU GUYS?
IT WAS A MONTH AGO.
WE ARRESTED A COLLEGE STUDENT WITH TWO "SEEDS" ON HIM, AND WORKED OUT HOW MANY DEALERS THERE WERE...
BUT WE STILL DON'T KNOW WHO THE BROKER IS.
...
SIII IIGH
GUESS IT'S THE SAME EVERY-WHERE.
CHUK
HERE'S TO OUR REUNION THEN!
!
WHAT'S YOUR TARGET?
"SEED."
WHUND
NOW LET'S TELL EACH OTHER WHAT WE KNOW, HM?

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BEEP
IF IT'S SUCH A POWERFUL HALLUCINOGEN THAT USERS ARE KILLING THEMSELVES...
WE'VE GOT TO ARREST THE BROKER-FAST.
YEAH, WE DO.
WE'VE LET THEM GO FOR A MONTH NOW, AND STILL THEY DON'T SHOW ANY SIGN OF CONTACTING A BROKER.
WHAT GIVES?
THE SEEDS ARE TOO SMALL.
THEY CAN GET A HUGE AMOUNT IN ONE DEAL.
THERE'S NO NEED TO SEE THE BROKER ALL THE TIME.
WITH PEOPLE INVOLVED WITH IT DYING ONE AFTER ANOTHER, IT'S LIKE...
...SWITCH.

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...
AKI.
KAUNK
...RIGHT. UNDERSTOOD.
WHERE'D YOU GO?
OH, JUST COLLECTING SOME INFORMATION.
AKI.
WE'VE GOT THE ADDRESS OF THE PERSON WHO SENT THAT WEIRD PACKAGE.
WHAT SHOULD WE DO?
HEAD STRAIGHT THERE.
IT'S PRETTY CLOSE TO HERE.
WE'LL SEE IF IT'S JUST A PRANK... OR IF IT'S GOT SOMETHING TO DO WITH THE CASE, EH?
PLUS...
I JUST DON'T WANT TO SEE ANY MORE BODIES PILE UP.
NARITA?
SKLCH
...
I'VE STILL GOT THAT BAD FEELING.
NARITA SEEMS KINDA... DIFFERENT FROM USUAL.
HAL...
HM? OH, IT'S NOTHING.
LATER, KIDS.

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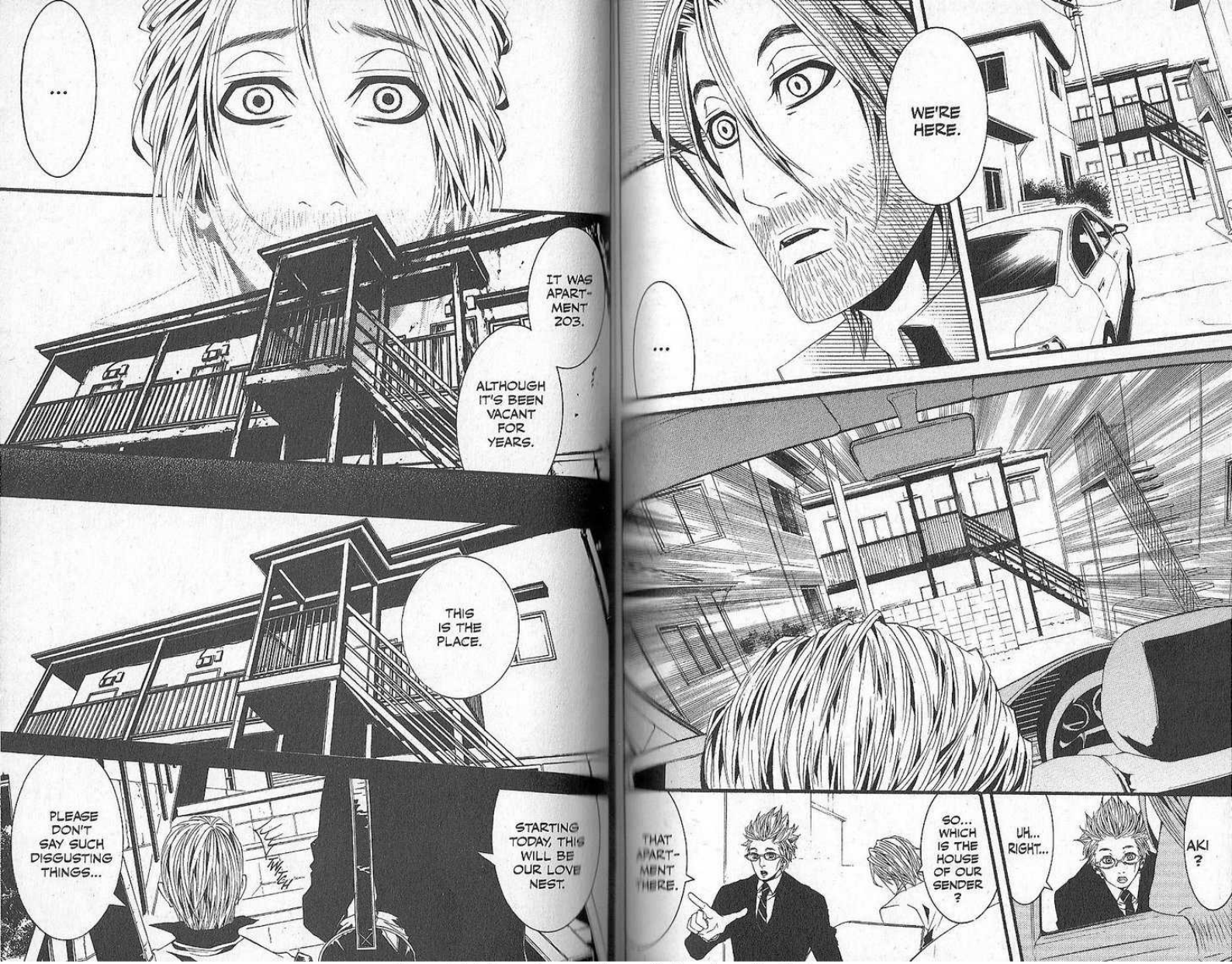

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SO YOU WANT ME TO TREAT A FLEDGLING TRAINEE WHO'S ONLY HALF-DONE THE SAME WAY I WOULD A FULL AGENT, EH?
HMPH
CHAK
"FLEDGLING TRAINEE"?
COULD YOU PLEASE...
...STOP CALLING ME "BABY AKI"?
STILL DOING HIS FIELD TRAINING
...
WANTING TO BE TREATED LIKE AN ADULT IS PROOF YOU'RE STILL A KID.
HMPH
BUT ADULTS ALWAYS WANT TO HEAR HOW YOUNG THEY ARE. NOW C'MON IN.
AKIMUNE NARITA, AGE 22

...SAIGA.
INVESTIGATION SECTION 1 POLICE DETECTIVE
SECOND ENFORCEMENT DIVISION, HOMICIDE, YOSHIAKI SAIGA
Hee hee
CAN'T TAKE A JOKE, CAN YOU, KID?
I NEVER ASKED FOR THAT.
AND ALSO...
...WHO'S JUST TRYING TO EASE THE FATIGUE OF A STAKEOUT WHEN WE HAVE NO IDEA WHEN IT WILL BE OVER.
YOU'VE GOT A KINDLY SENIOR LIKE ME...
SIGH

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TIC
WELL DONE!
THANKS.
SHE'S SUSPECTED OF KILLING A COWORKER, AND THERE'S A STRONG PROBABILITY THAT THE FUGITIVE KARIYA IS HOLING UP HERE.
SO WE'RE STAKING OUT HER EX-BOYFRIEND TOMONORI ANDO'S RESIDENCE TO CONFIRM THAT HE'S SHELTERING HER.
Sigh
ALL RIGHT.
KNK KNK
SO LET'S DO OUR BEST.
THE FIRST RULE OF A STAKEOUT IS PATIENCE SO IS THE SECOND.
KREEE
KNOK KNOK
WELL, ISN'T THIS AN OBVIOUS STAKE-OUT.
!
WHA
KNOCK
AW, BABY AKI, DON'T BE LIKE THAT!
YOU SURE TALK LIKE AN OLD MAN, FOR 35.
YOU'RE 35, RIGHT?
WE USE OUR INSIDE VOICES ON A STAKEOUT, HM?
AND I'M NOT A KID!
TOUCH
NO "BABY AKI"!
TSK.
LOOK!
DOOM
shff
SO, KIDDO, SINCE YOU'RE NEW TO THIS, WE'LL REVIEW THE STAKEOUT, SHALL WE?
DOO OOM
SON OF A-!
...!
UH, TODAY'S STAKE-OUT...
IS PART OF A HOMICIDE CASE THAT HAS ONE MIU KARIYA AS THE SUSPECT.
CRAP.
BEAM
SO... TAKE IT AWAY!

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NO, HE'S NOT.
SO IS HE FROM THE DEPART-MENT TOO?
THE END ?!
KOSAKA'S...
A NARC.
REN KOSAKA, THE ACTING CHIEF OF INVESTIGATION SECTION 1 OF THE KANTO DISTRICT NARCOTICS CONTROL OFFICE (FORMER NAME).
THE JURISDICTIONS ARE DIFFERENT, BUT OUR CRIME SCENES OVERLAP A LOT.
YOU SHOULD REMEMBER THAT.

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!
ba-bump
AKI!
WAIT... THAT CAN'T BE. IT'S BEEN 16 YEARS.
OH, UH, SORRY. WHAT'S UP?
SO LIKE I SAID, THE ROOM'S BEEN EMPTY FOR OVER A YEAR.
THERE'S NO WAY SOMETHING LIKE THAT COULD STILL BE...

MAYBE IT REALLY IS JUST A PRANK...
I CHECKED WITH THE LANDLORD AND IT'S BEEN VACANT SINCE THE YEAR BEFORE LAST.
...
shf
AKI?
OH... YEAH.
AND THE LAST TENANT WASN'T EVEN NAMED IGAKI...

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TAKE THIS TO FORENSICS.
ALL RIGHT, YOU...
WHAT ARE YOU TELLING ME TO DO?
ALL THOSE YEARS OF HARD WORK...
...COMING TO NOTHING.
PLEASE!
JUST LET ME DO A PROPER INVESTI-GATION!
!!
IS IT YOU?
IT CAN'T BE...
UH, HOLD ON...
WHAT WAS THE SENDER'S NAME AGAIN?
YOSHI-TOMO IGAKI, IT SAYS.
...
WHAT DO YOU WANT ME TO DO NOW? IT'S BEEN OVER FOR SO LONG...
I COULD JUST FORGET IT EVER HAPPENED... BUT...

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STIFLE THE SELF-RIGHTEOUSNESS. YOU'RE DOING YOUR FIELD STUDY..
SO THE DAY I TAKE YOU TO A DANGEROUS CRIME SCENE AND YOU GET HURT, MY HEAD WILL ROLL.
...
GET IT?
SO IT'D BE SMART TO FINISH IT UP AS QUIETLY AS POSSIBLE.
YOUR FIELD STUDY WILL BE DONE SOON.
JUST STOP THAT, WILL YOU?
KLIK
KNEEL
!

INFIL-TRATION ?!
WHY DO YOU CARE SO MUCH?
THEY JUST WANTED US TO GO DO A LITTLE INFILTRATION, IS ALL.
HEY, IT'S AN IMPOR-TANT JOB.
ALL WE'RE DOING IS RETURNING DOCUMENTS!
AREN'T YOU CONFUSING THAT WITH "GOFER"?
LOOK, BABY AKI...
AND STOP CALLING ME "BABY AKI"! IT'S-
I CAME TO STUDY WITH INVESTI-GATION SECTION 1. WITH THE HOMICIDE CHIEF.
...
WHY AREN'T WE GOING TO THE SCENE? WE'RE JUST MOVING THESE POINTLESS PAPERS AROUND!
YOU SHUT UP AND YOU LISTEN.
GLARE
LOOK, CAREER-BOY.

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...
TAK TAK TAK
wha
THAT'S RIGHT..! HE'S A NARCOTICS CONTROL OFFICER..!!
HE'S A NARC.
HE WOULDN'T BE HERE WITHOUT A GOOD REASON... THAT WAS CLOSE.
I WONDER IF HE'S DOING SOME KIND OF UNDERCOVER INVESTIGATION...
I ALMOST CALLED HIM BY HIS REAL NAME.

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ALWAYS JUDGING PEOPLE ON THEIR TITLE OR THEIR CAREER HISTORY.
I HATE 'EM.
I HATE GUYS WHO DON'T THINK ABOUT ANYTHING SHORT OF THEIR OWN PROMOTIONS.
THAT'S A VERY ADMIRABLE VIEW.
SO LET ME ASK YOU THIS.
DON'T JUST DECIDE THAT ALL CAREER AGENTS ARE LIKE THAT!
YOU'RE DOING THAT!
um uh
HM? WHAT'S THAT?
I CAN'T QUITE HEAR YOU!
...
!!
HUH?
mble
....HELP PEOPLE.
mble
WHY'D YOU CHOOSE THIS CAREER, BABY AKI?
!

Shff
Shff
YOU DON'T SMOKE, RIGHT, BABY AKI?
NO.
SMOKES ARE CHEAP AND THEY DISTRACT ME.
shf
thunk
I HATE IT.
OH MY.
BUT I'M RUNNING OUTTA GAS.
IS THIS CAREER TALK AGAIN?
AND HERE I THOUGHT YOU SHOWED UP ON THE FIRST DAY AND SOMEONE TOLD YOU "DON'T SMOKE IF YOU WANT A PROMOTION!"
YOU JUST CAN'T HELP BEING SARCASTIC WITH ME, CAN YOU?
DO YOU REALLY HATE CAREER COPS THAT MUCH?
Heh
YEAH.

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I DON'T HATE THAT.
STILL.
SERIOUSLY, STOP IT WITH THE "BABY AK!"—
ZAKK
—!
SAIGA ...?
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
HERE, I'LL DRIVE. LET'S PULL IN OVER THERE.
NN.... YEAH.... SORRY.
SKREE
IF ALL THE POLICE IN JAPAN WERE MORE LIKE YOU...
I THINK THE PEOPLE YOU ALL HELPED WOULD BE HAPPY.

I WANNA HELP...
I WANT TO HELP AS MANY PEOPLE AS I CAN, OKAY?!
!
YOU REALLY MEAN THAT?
YOU BET I DO.
I GUESS THAT'S WHY YOU TOOK THE TOUGHER STATE EXAMINATION PATH...
I THOUGHT I'D BE ABLE TO HAVE MORE OPTIONS THAT WAY.
IF I'M GOING TO HELP PEOPLE, I MIGHT AS WELL HELP A LOT OF PEOPLE, RIGHT?
AM I WRONG?
MUSS MUSS
YOU'RE A FOOL.
YOU'RE A REAL FOOL, BABY AKI.
GOD!

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HOW'RE YOU GONNA PROTECT YOURSELF AND YOUR FRIENDS...
...WITH A WEAK STANCE LIKE THAT?
!
DON'T BACK DOWN, ETO!
OH...
I DON'T WANNA TRAIN ANYMORE!
KAI.
YOU'VE GOT TO DO IT.
IF YOU'RE NOT STRONG...
YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO PROTECT YOURSELF... OR THE PEOPLE YOU LOVE.

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THAT KID COULD DIE BECAUSE OF YOU SOMEDAY.
...!
WHAT'S HE...
WHAT'S WRONG WITH BRING-ING HIM BACK TO HIS REAL SELF?
HE'S GONNA DIE BECAUSE OF ME?
CHIEF ASAKURA SAID, "TAKE 'EM! THEY'RE GOOD FOR SORE-MUSCLED WIMPS!"
AND THEN HE GAVE ME ALL THESE HOT COMPRESSES!
Such a nice person!
SMAK
COMPRESS
ARG!
UGH
ZOOOONE
...

SWITCH 11 THE END

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